

EDITORIALS

An Important Agreement

Agreement on an acceptable arrangement between the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and city officials, whereby the city will continue its policy of giving financial support to the Chamber's program, solves a problem that was becoming acute.

It would seem inconceivable that a city of the size of Torrance cannot support a Chamber of Commerce. We agree with those sincere city officials who contend that the Chamber ought to be able to get along without public funds except for purposes of a special nature. At the same time, we are aware of the situation created by precedent and public lethargy that can't be changed overnight.

This community is fortunate in having the kind of leadership in its Chamber of Commerce that is represented by President John Ebbinghouse and the others who serve with him as officials and on the Board of Directors. All are men who have plenty to keep themselves occupied with their own affairs, yet they give freely of this valuable time and without hope of compensation. Their single interest is to make Torrance a better place in which to live, to own property, or to be in business.

The first to agree with city officials that the Chamber ought to be self-supporting would be Mr. Ebbinghouse and his board. They, more than any others in the community, dislike having to depend upon the city for the maintenance of a program that is absolutely essential to the welfare of all interests within this rapidly growing city of more than 80,000.

The city officials and the Chamber officials must work harmoniously and closely. All should have the same objective—a better Torrance. Together they should work for a bigger and better Chamber of Commerce with a common goal of eventually making this important unofficial strong right arm of civic endeavor, self supporting and completely independent.

Litterbugs Hit Again

Professional litterbugs hit the downtown section of Torrance again this week—this time leaving streets, parking lots, alleys, and sidewalks littered with large circulars advertising a sale in an out-of-town store.

The pros in the litterbug field who employ young boys to stick thousands of circulars under windshield wipers of autos parked in the downtown area create a serious trash situation in the city, a situation which costs the city considerable sums each year to remedy.

If the advertiser believes it is good for his business to scatter thousands of gaudy sheets of paper up and down the streets of a city, that is his privilege—and it is his money that is blowing up and down the street.

But it is the taxpayers' money that is used to clean up the filthy mess. Perhaps a method of transferring this cost to the individual who caused it should be devised by city officials.

Clean-up bonds are required of carnivals, fairs, and other such enterprises locating temporarily on property in the city—perhaps a clean-up bond should be required of the professional litterbugs.

GREAT FALLS, MONT., LEADER: "The long controversy over the damming of the Snake River in Idaho to produce power continues on. A bill in Congress to build with public funds a high dam is still pending. . . Private development of the Snake River is feasible and at a great saving over what the proposed high structure of the Reclamation Bureau would cost."

THE MAIL BOX

(The Torrance Herald welcomes expressions from its readers which can be published on this page. The editors retain the right to edit the copy for matters of libel and good taste. Letters should be kept brief and must be signed. The writer's name will be withheld if requested. Opinions expressed in letters here published represent those of the writer and not necessarily those of The Torrance Herald.)

Business As Usual

Editor, Torrance Herald: Seeing the splendid article which was published in your Sunday, Aug. 5, edition about Moving Day at City Hall, punctuated the fact that not only is your Torrance HERALD an agent of communication, it is also a good public servant.

Such a timely feature, with excellent pictures, directed an important news item to all of our local citizens.

As a result, almost without exception, the public redirected their steps to our new City Hall and we were doing business as usual at our new location on Monday morning.

We feel that your fine article on Moving Day was greatly responsible for effecting this change with a minimum of confusion to the public.

May we take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to you and Reid Bundy?

GEORGE W. STEVENS
City Manager
Torrance

Park Program Lauded

Editor, Torrance Herald: I would like, at this time, to highly commend the Torrance Recreation Department for their wonderful program at our parks.

I am writing, mainly, in appreciation for the fine experiences my two boys, aged 6 and 8, are receiving. The program being presented this

year is better than ever. Not only have they greatly benefited from the sports schedule, crafts, and game tournaments, but also from the winter roasts, parades, and other "fun" activities. Even more important, they are learning excellent sportsmanship and moral standards.

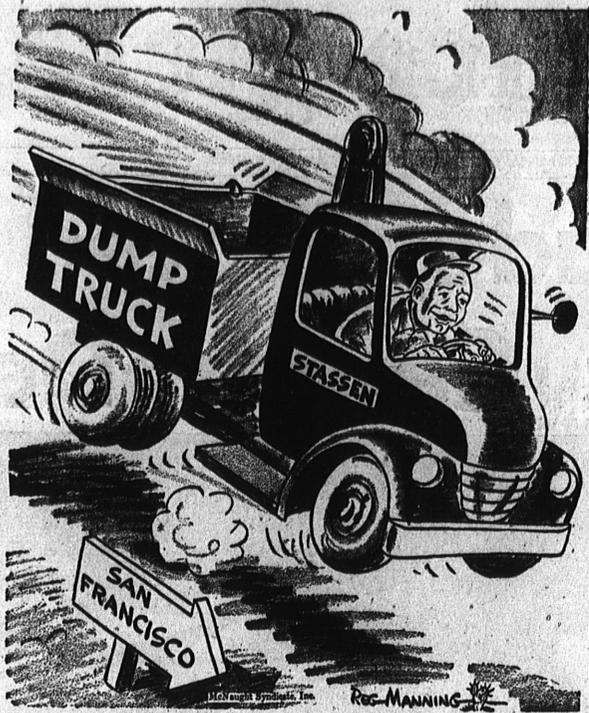
I thank, specifically, the directors at the Walteria Park, but feel assured that all our Torrance parks and playgrounds are being conducted under the same excellent standards. And again, I thank the recreation commission, hoping more parents will realize the wonderful opportunities that are being offered for all age groups.

A Successful Year

Editor, Torrance Herald: On behalf of the Women's Auxiliary to the Torrance Memorial Hospital, I wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Torrance HERALD for the outstanding publicity given our organization during the year 1955-56.

Our principal money-raising project, the Valentine Ball, could not have been nearly so successful had it not been for the conscientious, diligent work and kind consideration of Miss Edna Floyd. Through her excellent articles, and the fine photography by Mill Svensk and other staff members, helped make our year an extremely successful one. Again, I thank you so very much.

JEAN C. SLEETH
Publicity



YOUR PROBLEMS

By ANN LANDERS

Dear Ann: I'm 36 and the mother of four teenagers. Our marriage has been fairly happy with the usual number of "kinks." My husband is a prosperous small business man who always worked hard.

Six months ago he hired a man 34 from another city. The man has a 17-year-old wife who is very beautiful—and this is the problem. The new man was put in jail for reckless driving (one of our trucks) and his wife and my husband got very chummy. They spent several days and nights together "trying to spring the jailbird" but my own opinion is, they'd do nothing to help him as they were enjoying each other's company.

I had my fill the other night and marched over to her house. I caught them together and took my husband home. He was like a maniac—screamed, got purple with rage and hit our oldest son. The boy needed several stitches to close his head.

I don't want a divorce. The kids need a father. What can I do to get my husband to settle down?
—MRS. M. M.

The kids need a father, true—but with a father like THIS they also need pull with the blood bank.

I suggest you invite your husband to clear out of the house until he can behave himself. He'll find life pretty dull and meaningless after a while and his family will look awfully good to him.

Before you take him back be sure the reckless driver has employment elsewhere, preferably out of town—and that the 17-year-old doll goes with him.

Dear Ann Landers: Last night my husband told me he wrote you a letter. I've been through so much with this clown that I just could not take another blow. All I need is to have that letter appear in the newspaper with his name signed to it. I think I'd take the gas-pipe.

Please, Ann, don't print his letter. It would be the end of me.
—MRS. P. L.

Dear Mrs. P. L. RELAX: You've never seen a name in this column yet—and you never will. I've tracked down your husband's letter and it will not appear in the paper. Forget the gas-pipe; you're due for brighter days ahead—he said so.

Dear Ann Landers: I'm not quite 14 and have a terrific crush on a boy who is a living doll. He's 19 and doesn't know I'm alive. All he's ever said to me is "Hi!" He leaves for college soon and I want to get better acquainted with him before he goes. My problem is, how can I get him to take me

seriously? I'm a little shy.
—W.P.N.Y.

You're a little shy all right—but five years. This boy is not for you, at least not YET. Stay out of his hair and don't let him know you are head over heels or you may spoil it for later.

Dear Ann: I'm 28 and was classified 4F during World War II. For the last seven years whenever I take a girl out her first question is "Were you in the service?" When I say I was rejected she shies away as if I had some contagious disease. One gal asked me the name of my family doctor and said she was going to "look into it."

I'm getting a complex over this thing. What is a guy in my spot supposed to do?
—REJECTED GENT

Where do you find these kind happy females? According to my figures you

were barely old enough for service when the war ended. Make no apologies and stop feeling guilty. So long as you don't duck the draft intentionally, that's all that counts. If you'd forget about it, so would the girls.

Dear Ann: I've been married 16-years and have yet to see my wife clean the house. It isn't just untidy—it's filthy. I've bought her every kind of appliance you can name, but she never uses them. We have one daughter 15 and I can't understand why the two of them can't keep our place in order. Any suggestions?
—SAM F.

If after 16-years, Sloppy Liz can't get herself organized she'll never be able to. The appliance you'll have to get is called a "cleaning lady."

(Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of The Torrance Herald, P.O. Box 100, Torrance, California. Field Enterprises, Inc.)

Barney's Blarney

By BARNEY GLAZER

Albert Goldberg, music critic, tells about two once-famous pianists—Moriz Rosenthal and his cousin, Fanny Bloomfield-Zeissler. It seems that Rosenthal was sitting in a Berlin coffee-house when he learned that Bloomfield-Zeissler was celebrating her 25th anniversary as a pianist in America. "Aha," quoth Rosenthal, "I see it is already 25 years I do not like my cousin Fanny's playing!"

A man is innocent until he is willing to admit he's guilty. In Chicago recently, a 38-year-old man was standing on a street corner. This fellow weighed more than 200 pounds and it was obvious to three passing detectives that his suit fit him much too soon.

"Sam, the pants are okay, but you made the man too long," said one of the three detectives. And the others chimed in: "Wonder what a size 44 is doing in a size 39 suit?" So, the trio decided to ask him.

"It's my uncle's," replied the 38-year-old. "Thought it would stretch. It won't. I'll change it in my car." The gendarmes went along for the changeover.

In the stranger's car they found a revolver, sundry knives and a tear gas gun. "Explain these, please?" they contemptuously requested.

"I shoot at tin cans in the country," explained the stranger. "And the knives?" asked the detectives. "I use them to play darts at my country club." "And the tear gas gun?" The stranger paused and sighed. "People fascinate me when they cry." "Remarkable," said the detectives in unison, and one added: "The other boys at

the station won't believe us, so would you mind telling it to the judge?"

And off they went, arm in arm.

You can read items like this one in Kerwin Hoover's "Home Town Flavor" column. Harry Oliver writes a column in the Desert Rat Scrapbook at Thousand Palms, Calif. One day, Harry received a letter from a reader claiming there was nothing in Harry's column but a lot of wind. Which prompted Mr. Oliver to point out in his next column that he appreciated the comment because the automobile tire has absolutely nothing in it but a lot of wind, but it makes ridin' kinda smooth-like.

And Mr. Hoover's "Home Town Flavor" proceeds to quote Gib Welch's remark that it isn't necessary to hold on to your hat as you are going up, because you can always pick it up when you come down.

We've finally figured out the true meaning of the biblical expression: "the quick and the dead." The quick are the ones who get out of the way of automobiles and the dead are the ones who don't.

Art Ryan shakes his head, whenever he thinks about the 4-year-old who refused to have his tonsils removed. "Every time I go to the hospital," complained the youngster, "I only get sick."

Once upon a time a man was complimented on his beautiful and ideal marriage which had lasted 52 years. He replied: "Everybody says my shoes are beautiful too but I'm the only one who knows they're too tight!"

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNNY

Couple of more tid-bits about the big hoopla this week end when the city dedicates its new civic center—the sixth city hall in the history of the city.

It was back in 1921, according to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, who is the city's first and only city clerk since incorporation, that the first meeting of the city fathers—known then as the Board of Trustees—met in the Dominguez Land Co. offices.

Quarters for the city were found soon thereafter at the corner of El Prado and Torrance Blvd., which has served in recent years as the home of the Foursquare Church. City offices were later housed near El Prado and Sartori in the old Antler Hotel building before moving in the fire station building on Cravens Ave. in 1928.

George B. Proctor was named president of the board of trustees on May 16, 1921, and served through the incorporation period which became official on Dec. 12, 1921, and was succeeded on April 4, 1922 by J. M. Fitzhugh.

W. H. Gilbert served from April 17, 1923, until April 21, 1924; R. R. Smith, from April 21, 1924, to April 6, 1925; R. J. Deinger, from April 6, 1925, to April 19, 1928; and John Dennis from April 19, 1928, until September 28, 1932.

William Klusman was the city's first presiding official to be referred to as mayor. He served from April 19, 1932 until Sept. 26, 1933, when he was succeeded by Earl C. Conner who served until Feb. 6, 1934.

Scott R. Ludlow succeeded Conner and served until April 20, 1936; William H. Stanger then served until Feb. 25, 1937 and he was succeeded by William J. Tolson who held the office until April 15, 1940.

Tom McGuire was mayor from April, 1940, until Tolson was reappointed to the office on April 18, 1944. Tolson served two years in his second term as mayor and was succeeded by J. Hugh Sherfy Jr., on April 16, 1946.

On April 18, 1950, Bob Haggard succeeded Sherfy and served until the election of Mervin M. Schwab to be mayor on April 15, 1952. Nickolas O. Drale replaced Schwab as mayor on April 20, 1954, and Drale was succeeded by the city's present mayor, Albert Isen on April 5, 1955.

Some idea of the growth of Torrance during its existence as an incorporated city is contained in the files of City Clerk Bartlett. He reports that the estimated population at the time of incorporation in 1921 was 1800. At that time, the city boundaries enclosed a total of four acres.

Today the population is estimated by City Manager George Stevens to be approximately 82,000, and the city has about 20 square miles.

Assessed valuation in 1921 was \$2,270,985 (estimated valuation for the 1956-57 year for Torrance is \$123,000,000).

Saturday officials will gather on a platform to be erected in front of the city hall to dedicate this, the finest public building in Torrance. It will probably be the last time in the lives of many of us that the city will go through such an event—so I'd advise that you don't let this go by without participating in the affair.

The dedication speeches will be short and sweet, we've been promised. Beyond that, there will be an aquasade in the new swimming pool, the original paintings donated to the city will be in place and ready for viewing, and the Torrance Art Group will have original paintings on display.

And, a big free community dance with Harry Babbitt as the featured entertainer, will be held at poolside Saturday night.

I've got my babysitter lined up—have you?

AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

At this moment, less than two weeks before the opening of the Democratic National convention August 13, some of the most decisive maneuvering is going on in secret caucuses that can well determine the presidential nominee of the Democratic party. This is the showdown hour for the aspirants, long before convention time. We are carefully gathering the pieces of information from the strategists and king-makers and will report them to our readers. From Chicago we fly to San Francisco for the Republican National convention August 20 . . . barring a repetition of the 1924 Democratic National convention, when it took the Democrats 103 ballots and 10 days of day and night sessions to nominate John W. Davis.

As one of the world's leading champions of democracy, the United States is last among all democratic countries in national election turnout. Our average of about 55% ranks far behind Italy's 91%, France's 88%, Britain's 84%, Canada's 80%. We are, of course, many times larger than the above nations, but our record for apathy and indifference is dangerous to our democratic processes. One of the reasons for the low national average is the South. The average vote in the Southern states is about 38% of the total to 62% in the Northern states.

The latest statistics on party support show the Democrats leading with 40%, Republicans 38%, Independents 21 1/2%, Socialists, etc. 1/2%

It is obvious that the key to political victory under present conditions. A decisive factor in the coming campaign may be the serious split within the Democratic party between the liberals and conservatives—and in the South on the segregation issue. So, while there are more registered Democrats, it does not mean that this superiority will necessarily be felt in the coming election. It would be difficult to defeat a popular candidate like Eisenhower even if all the Democrats were united within the Party. The Independents voted for Ike in 1952 by 76%. It will take a miracle to defeat Eisenhower in view of the present split within the Democratic party, the lopsided Independent vote in his favor . . . and the overwhelming feminine support on his side.

Women out-voted men in the 1952 campaign by over 1,500,000 and they will probably exceed them by 2,000,000 in November, 1956. Women live longer than men and will continue to increase their total as time goes on.

This favors the Republican party. Registrations show that more women are registered Republican than Democratic. Republican women on the average belong to families with higher standards of living and have more time to actively participate in a political campaign. They are the organized club women and have more personal campaign funds at their disposal. This ever-increasing feminine power at the ballot box has an important influence on the choice of political candidates, and on the side of conservatism. The appearance, voice, personality of the candidate will be receiving as

much consideration as ability or national stature. Eisenhower and Kefauver have a far greater feminine following than any other candidates according to the pollsters. Their folksy family life has a strong appeal to women. Photographs of grandchildren and happy family circles influence feminine voters, especially in the older brackets, to an important degree.

In the 1916 campaign between Charles Evans Hughes and Woodrow Wilson, Hughes went to bed election night thinking he had won, only to lose by only 2 votes the next day. Wilson had 277 electoral votes to Hughes' 254. But in the 1912 campaign Wilson trounced Republican Taft 435 to 8. In the 1928 campaign Herbert Hoover defeated Alfred Smith 444 to 87 electoral votes, but in 1932 Franklin Roosevelt defeated Hoover 472 to 59. Harry S. Truman received 49.5% of the total vote in 1948, yet he defeated Thomas E. Dewey.

Of the 34 presidents since George Washington, 23 have been lawyers; 3 were soldiers (Zachary Taylor, Ulysses S. Grant, Dwight D. Eisenhower) 2 farmers (William H. Harrison, Harry S. Truman); 2 planters (George Washington, Thomas Jefferson); 1 educator (Woodrow Wilson); 1 publicist man (Theodore Roosevelt); 1 engineer (Herbert Hoover); and a tailor (Andrew Jackson).

The youngest at inauguration was Theodore Roosevelt at 42 . . . others in their forties were Ulysses S. Grant, 46; Grover Cleveland, 47 (first term); Franklin Pierce, 48; James Polk and James Garfield, 49. The oldest at inauguration was William Harrison at 69 . . . others in their sixties were: James Buchanan 65; Zachary Taylor, 64; Dwight Eisenhower, 62; John Adams and Andrew Jackson, 61; and Harry S. Truman, 60. Two of our most populated states, California and Illinois, never had a president. Virginia leads all states with 8 presidents' . . . and Ohio second with 7. Eisenhower is the first president born in the deep South (Texas).

Dwight D. Eisenhower broke all voting records in history when he polled 33,936,252 votes to Adlai Stevenson's 27,314,992 in 1952.

Franklin D. Roosevelt broke all electoral records when he defeated Alfred M. Landon in 1936, 538 to 8 electoral votes, and the largest popular vote plurality in history, 27,476,673 to 16,679,583 for Landon. The closest presidential race of the past 50 years occurred in 1916 when Woodrow Wilson defeated Hughes 9,129,006 to 8,538,221, by only 591,385 votes.

"Think I've discovered a way to save—crunch, crunch—enough to pay our income tax!"

"Sometimes it seems that when a bride says 'I do' she's looking around to see if she could do better!" — Herb Shriner.

"The only boss who ever got all his work done by Friday was Robinson Crusoe." — Art Moger.

"The average man is proof that the average woman can take a joke." —Lock Haven (Pa.) Express.

"Hereditly is when a teenage boy winds up with his mother's big brown eyes and his father's long yellow convertible." —Sammy Kaye.

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and I Quote

My Neighbors

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION